

State of South Carolina

Governor's Proclamation

WHEREAS, children deserve to be safe and free from harm in their homes, schools, and communities; and

WHEREAS, child maltreatment, including neglect, physical abuse, sexual abuse, and emotional abuse, is harm caused to a child by a parent, caretaker, or other person responsible for that child's safety; and

WHEREAS, tragically, children throughout South Carolina and the nation continue to fall victim to abuse and neglect; and

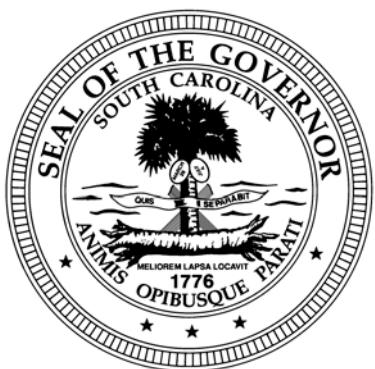
WHEREAS, the annual observance of Child Abuse Prevention Month is designed to educate our citizens about the devastating effects of child abuse, while empowering and encouraging people to get involved; and

WHEREAS, this year's theme, "In loving hands, kids blossom!", reminds us of the importance of treating our children with love and respect while highlighting the ways in which all of us can help ensure a life free from harm for our children.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mark Sanford, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim April 2004 as

CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to work together to prevent the abuse and neglect of our children.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Sanford", is written over a horizontal line.

MARK SANFORD
GOVERNOR
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA